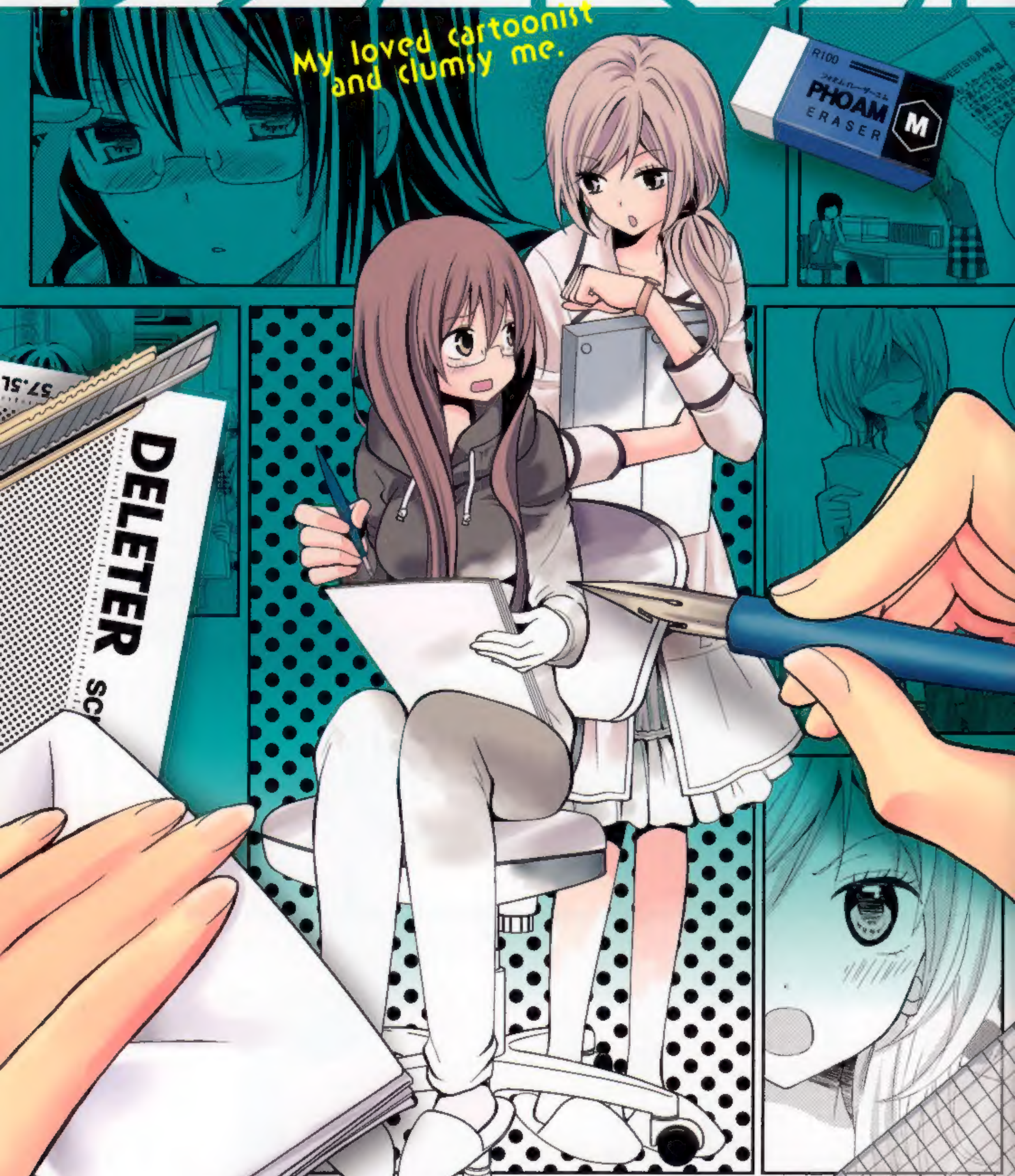
tsubomi series

レンアイマンガ



コダマナオコ

MANGA TIME
KR
COMICS

tsubomi series

レンアイマンガ

My loved cartoonist and clumsy me.

コダマナオコ

芳文社

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NO WAY!

PRETTY FISHY. SPEND THE NIGHT WITH YOUR BOY-FRIEND OR SOME-THING?

AH, WEARING THE SAME CLOTHES AS YESTERDAY, HUH?

THE STORYBOARD WAS FINISHED, AND THEN I MADE DINNER FOR HER.

COME ON, PLEASE GET IN THE HABIT OF EATING HEALTHIER FOOD!

DID YOU SAY SOME-THING?

IT'S JUST ME, SO THIS REALLY ISN'T NECES-SARY...

YESTERDAY, I HAD A MEETING WITH KUROI-SENSEI AT HER PLACE

Y-yeah...

Sensei... This is what happens when you get lost in thought in the bath!

AND THEN I HAD TO LOOK AFTER SENSEI WHEN SHE GOT LIGHTHEADED IN THE BATH...

NO, THAT'S DEFINITELY SCANDALOUS.

What's with you two?

SO IT'S NOTHING SCANDALOUS AT ALL!

AND SO I CAME TO WORK FROM SENSEI'S PLACE.

AND THEN WHILE GETTING SENSEI READY FOR BED, I STARTED FEELING KINDA SLEEPY TOO...

!

SENSEI, I HAVE SOMETHING TO ASK YOOOU.

KONNO-SAN MENTIONED THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP SEEMED PRETTY SCANDALOUS!

BLUSH

HUH?

WH-WHAT IS IT?

BLUSH

FELT THAT WAY ABOUT EACH OTHER?

COULD IT BE THAT SENSEI AND I

Became a self-conscious person just now

UNEASY

Is a self-conscious person

レンアイマンガ

マダ ナオコ

tsubomi series

K C M Y

作業日			
品質責任者			
左右	154ミリ		
天地	216ミリ		
製版寸法			
口絵	P001		

品名 つぼみシリーズ レンアイマンガ

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印刷先 芳文社

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品名 つぼみにキス レンアイマンガ

口絵 P002

製版寸法 天地 216ミリ 左右 154ミリ

作業日

校正先 芳文社

CHAPTER 1

I BOUGHT THE HIGHEST CLASS OF CAKES FROM ANDIE CHARPENTIER.

MAKE-UP IS ALL SET.

NEW JACKET.

RIDING

I BROUGHT A FIRST EDITION COPY OF "WITH YOU."

I WONDER IF I SHOULD ASK HER TO SIGN IT...

TODAY IS THE DAY I MEET RITSU KUROI-SENSEI FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THAT'S WHEN I DISCOVERED "WITH YOU."

WHEN I WAS A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT,

Otakuuu.

MY CLASSMATES WOULD MAKE FUN OF ME BECAUSE I WAS A PLAIN GIRL WHO SPENT ALL HER TIME READING MANGA.

AND IT WAS MY BIBLE.

RITSU KUROI-SENSEI'S BLOCKBUSTER MANGA "WITH YOU" WAS A GROUNDBREAKING DRAMA, SELLING 2,500,000 COPIES.

IN IT, THE PLAIN AND BORING HEROINE HARUKA BECOMES A BEAUTIFUL AND SUCCESSFUL MODEL.

A SUCCESS STORY WHERE SHE FALLS IN LOVE WITH THE CAMERAMAN, KENICHI.

FROM THEN ON, I PAID EXTRA ATTENTION TO BEING TRENDY.

I THOUGHT THAT IF I WAS GOING TO CHANGE, THEN I NEEDED TO BE JUST LIKE HARUKA.

AFTER WORKING UP THE COURAGE, I SENT MY FIRST FAN LETTER.

A BEAUTIFUL AND LOVELY PERSON.

SHE'S DEFINITELY LIKE THE HEROINE:

Idol

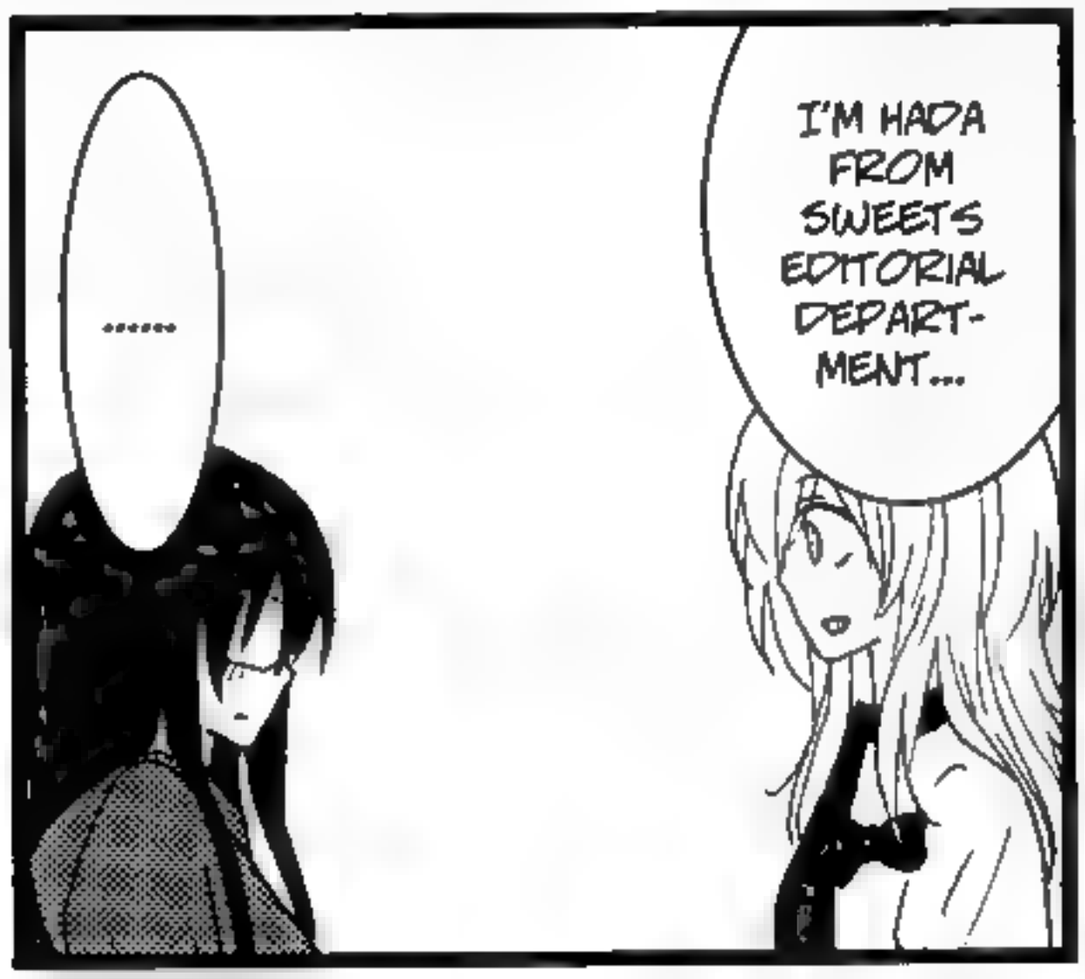
GRADUALLY, I BECAME MORE SELF-CONFIDENT AND WAS ABLE TO MAKE SOME GOOD FRIENDS.

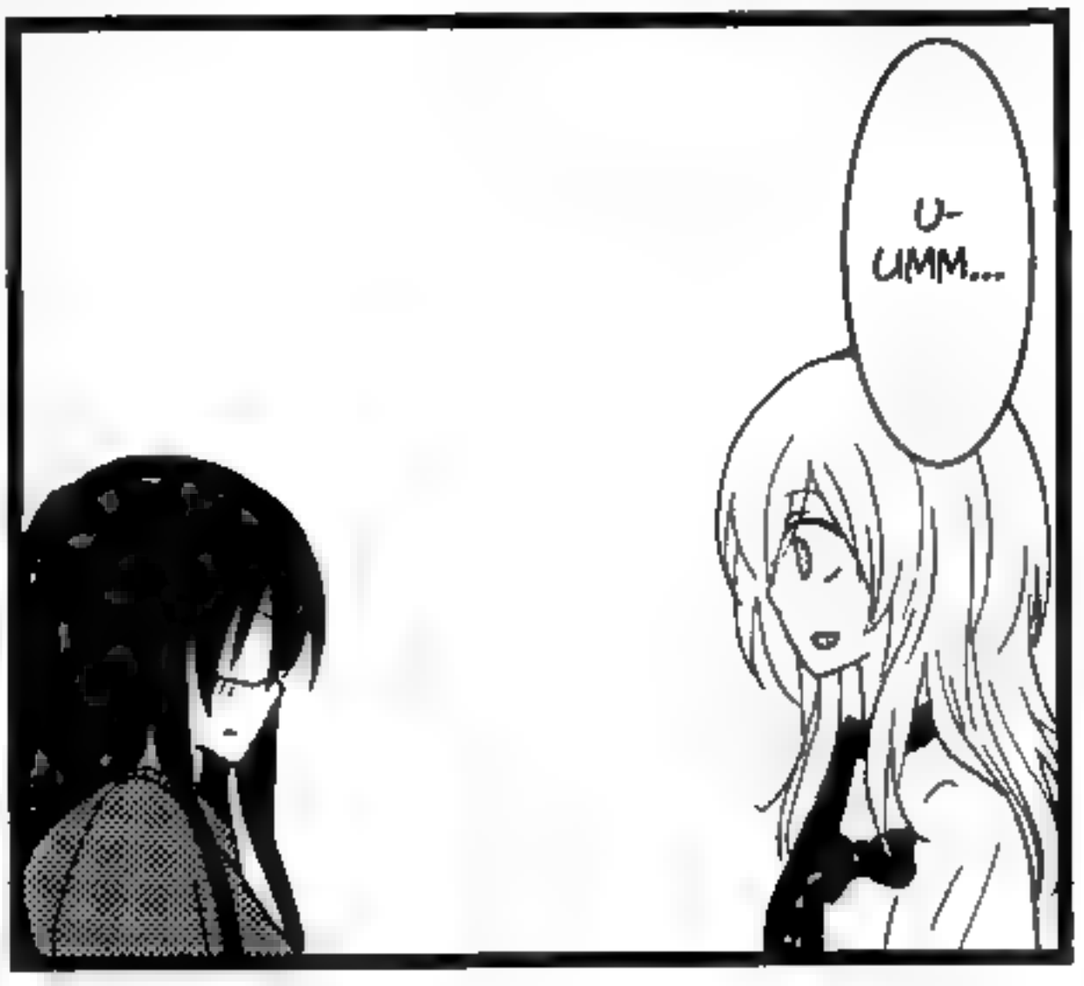
IT'S ALL BECAUSE...

WHO I AM TODAY IS THANKS TO RISTU KUROI-SENSEI'S "WITH YOU."

KUROI-SENSEI... WHAT KIND OF PERSON ARE YOU...?

ゴクリ…


.....
I'M HADA FROM SWEETS EDITORIAL DEPART-MENT...


U-UMM...

I'm sorry, I must be at the wrong room!

grab

UH...

UMMM...

I...

I'M...

KUROI...

HUUUH?!

.....

NN- WHAT'S WITH THAT REACTION?!

I wonder if she can grasp what's going on

OH! I HAVE THE SAME NAME AS THE HEROINE FROM "WITH YOU."

HARUKA!!

Once again

AS OF THIS MONTH I HAVE THE PLEASURE OF TAKING CARE OF SENSEI.

I'M HADA HARUKA.

Will I lose?!

AH!

HERE!!

I BOUGHT REFRESH-MENTS!

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU LIKE THESE TYPES OF THINGS...

WHOA.

Thanks for the cake

...UM...

*NOTE: OCTOPUS DUMPLINGS

*TAKO-YAKI...

**TAROU ...

HUH?

.....

WHAT KIND OF PASTRIES WOULD YOU LIKE?

I CAN BRING THOSE NEXT TIME I COME...

**NOTE: BRAND NAME.

I...LIKE TAROU'S TAKOYAKI AND... YOCCHAN'S DRIED SQUID...

IS IT REALLY?!

IS THIS REALLY THE KUROI-SENSEI WHO DREW SUCH A TRENDY MANGA...?!

TAROU'S TAKOYAKI AND YOCCHAN'S DRIED SQUID...?!

Is that what she said? Such cheap treats?

I EMBRACED THAT DREAM, AND YET...

KUROI-SENSEI IS SUPPOSED TO BE JUST LIKE HER WORK.

LIVING AS A FASHION-SAVVY BEAUTIFUL MANGAKA.

BUT SOMETHING FANCY... LIKE A MACARON OR A SAVARIN...

UMPH

WHAT'S WRONG, HADA?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

IT SEEMS LIKE SHE THOUGHT KUROI RITSU WAS JUST LIKE HARUKA FROM "WITH YOU!"

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF...

DID THE REAL KUROI SURPRISE YOU?

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ABOUT IT BEFORE-HAND?

HUH, WHAT ABOUT "W TH YOU"?

.....

It's a lot to swallow!

What's with that?

SHE'S THE TOTAL OPPOSITE ISN'T SHE?

Aha ha ha ha

.....

Mystery-moe?

I THINK THAT NOT KNOWING IS KIND OF LIKE KUROI'S MYSTERY-MOE, DON'T YOU THINK SO? ♡

AT LONG LAST MY HEART'S DESIRES FOR THIS POSITION BECAME A REALITY

AND YET...

BEFORE I WORKED MY WAY UP TO A 4-KOMA EDITOR, I HAD TO WORK HARD TO PROVE MYSELF.

FORGIVE ME, BUT IT SHOULD BE MYSTERY-DEPRESSION INSTEAD.

IT'S BECAUSE I WAS SUCH A BIG FAN!!!

.....

SIGH

MY DREAMS ARE SHATTERED...

...BUT EVEN THOUGH I SAID MY DREAMS ARE SHATTERED,

IT DOESN'T CHANGE THAT THIS IS NOW MY RESPONSIBILITY.

YOU'RE 28 AND DREAMING LIKE THAT?

THAT'S CUTE, HADA...

AH, IS THIS KUROI-SENSEI? IT'S HADAAA.

HOW'S THE PROGRESS ON THE STORY-BOARD COMING ALONG?

Business smile

EVEN LATER....

HARUKA-SENSEIII?

SEVERAL MORE DAYS LATER

SENSEI, ABOUT THE STORY-BOARD...

SEVERAL DAYS LATER

KUROI-SENSEI, ABOUT THE STORY-BOARD...

...THE PERSON YOU ARE CALLING IS NOT AVAILABLE. PLEASE LEAVE YOUR MESSAGE AFTER...

.....

...NOT... YET.

NOT... YET....I'M SORRY...

I... I'M SORRY ...

IT'S NOT DONE YET...

IS THAT SO?

About when do you think it'll be done?

OH,

KUROI-SENSEI IS PRETTY SENSITIVE, SO...

TRY TO AT LEAST PUT ON A SMILE FOR HER.♡

ding-dong

KUROI-SENSEI ISN'T ANSWERING HER PHONE.

No matter how many times I call

AH, SHE'S KIND OF A SHUT-IN,

SO JUST GO SEE HER.

HERE♡. I BROUGHT SOME GOODIES.

THESE ARE FRIED MOCHI FROM THE TIGER'S HERMITAGE. THEY'RE REALLY POPULAR THESE DAYS.

Pinch

Pinch

.....

AND BECAUSE I *ABSOLUTELY* DID NOT WANT TO BUY ANYTHING LIKE COCKROACH TAKOYAKI OR THOSE OTHER THINGS!

WHEN I ASKED YOU BEFORE, I GOT THE FEELING THAT YOU LIKED SWEET OR SALTY KINDS OF FOOD.

ABOUT THAT...

NOW THEN,

ABOUT THE STORY-BOARD?

IT'S NOT.... DONE YET, SO...

I'M WORKING PRETTY HARD ON IT, BUT...

...WORKING HARD?

YOU WERE PLAYING GAMES, WEREN'T YOU!!

WHAT DO I DO?

shake shake

shiver shiver

SHE'S VERY FRUSTRATING...

IT'S USELESS TO PUT ON A SMILE AND BABY HER!

LET ME SEE WHAT YOU'VE GOT SO FAR!!

AT ANY RATE!

SO...YOU SHOULDN'T USE...

HUH?

FROM FRONT TO BACK IT LOOKS FINISHED...

ACTUALLY, DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS GOOD ENOUGH?

BUT

I WANT TO...USE DIFFERENT FRAMES...

...WHAT'S THIS?

What?

YOU'RE NOT BEING VERY REBELLIOUS IF YOU'RE LOOKING AT THE FLOOR!

gokuri

I...I DISAGREE...

I DISAGREE ...!!

ITS NOT BAD AT ALL. WE REALLY SHOULD GO WITH THIS.

AND WE'RE OUT OF TIME, SO...

I...

IS THAT ALL RIGHT? BECAUSE I'VE GOT A DATE TOMORROW MORNING, YA KNOW!

NATURALLY, THE MANU-SCRIPT WAS ALSO BEING FINISHED AT THE LAST MOMENT

STRONG-WILLED OR WEAK-WILLED, BE MORE CLEAR!!

IN THE END,

THE PRINTING OFFICE HAS BEEN WAITING AND WE'VE BEEN BUGGING PEOPLE...

AND YET...

CERTAINLY, THE WAY SHE DID THIS WAS INTERESTING... AND WITH SUCH CARE....

IT'S WHAT I WANTED SO MUCH WHEN I WAS A STUDENT.

THE MODEL, HARUKA, AND THE CAMERAMAN, KENICHI, HAD THIS PROFESSIONAL FEELING.

ALL OF THE CHARACTERS IN "WITH YOU" WERE AMAZING ADULTS.

AND YET...

SENSEI GAVE IN TO HER FEAR AND SURRENDERED. SHE WAS GIVEN ONE WEEK TO FINISH THE STORYBOARD.

HADA?

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

GROW UP ALREADY!

SKRK

THE RING-LEADER WHO DREW IT WAS LIKE THAT...

shake shake

Hadaka

I'M GOING TO SENSEI'S HOUSE, WHERE THEY'RE DOING THE TYPE-SETTING!

I'VE BROUGHT SOME ONIGIRI* AND TEA!

BAM

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK!

SHE HASN'T EATEN OR SLEPT...

SENSEI... SHE'S BEEN LIKE THAT THIS WHOLE TIME...

.....

I'M NOT GONNA EAT IT AND I'M NOT GONNA HOLD ON TO IT!

COME ON, SENSEI TOO.

...I'M FINE...

I GET SLEEPY WHEN I EAT.

W-

WE HAVEN'T REALLY HAD ANYTHING FILLING SINCE YESTERDAAAY. IS THIS REALLY OKAY?

PLEASE, PLEASE, GO AHEAD.

The assistants

*NOTE: RICE BALLS

CAN YOU EAT THIS THEN?

.....

IT'LL BE A BOTHER FOR EVERYONE IF YOU COLLAPSE NOW.

EVEN IF IT'S JUST A LITTLE, PLEASE EAT SOMETHING.

scared

THE NEW BOSS IS SCARY...

...FOR A CHANGE OF PACE.

THAT WAS...

I DON'T NEED ANY EXCUSES! GET BACK TO WORK PLEASE!!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND!

THE REASON WE'RE HERE NOW IS BECAUSE YOU WASTED TIME PLAYING GAMES INSTEAD OF WORKING ON THE STORY-BOARD.

Let's do the next page please!

I CAN'T KEEP SOUNDING SO STRICT...

IT'S NO USE...

MY TRANSFORMATION IS ALL THANKS TO SENSEI'S MANGA.

BUT I ABSOLUTELY CANNOT HOLD BACK.

IT'S FINISHED!

WHY

IS THE PERSON WHO DREW THIS MANGA LIKE THIS...

...I'M WORRIED THAT I'M FORGETTING SOMETHING, BUT...

.....

flip

PLEASE LET ME MAKE THE FINAL CHECK!

paint paint

WOW! SUCH CLEAN LINES.

SUCH DETAILED TONES.

KUROI-SENSEI'S COMPLETE MANUSCRIPT...!!

LOOKING AT KUROI-SENSEI'S COMPLETED MANUSCRIPT BEFORE ANYBODY ELSE...!!!

I... AM NOW...

ALL RIGHT, THAT'S IT FOR TODAY!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK...

KUROI-SENSEI REALLY IS AMAZING...!

I THINK I'LL LOOK IT OVER REALLY .GOOD ONE. MORE TIME.

NOW THEN...

THE STORY-BOARD LOOKS PRETTY GOOD IN SPITE OF IT ALL

DOING THE STORYBOARD THIS WAY WAS PRETTY GOOD AFTER ALL.

SENSEI'S WAY IS THE CORRECT ONE.

click

click

click

click

click

click

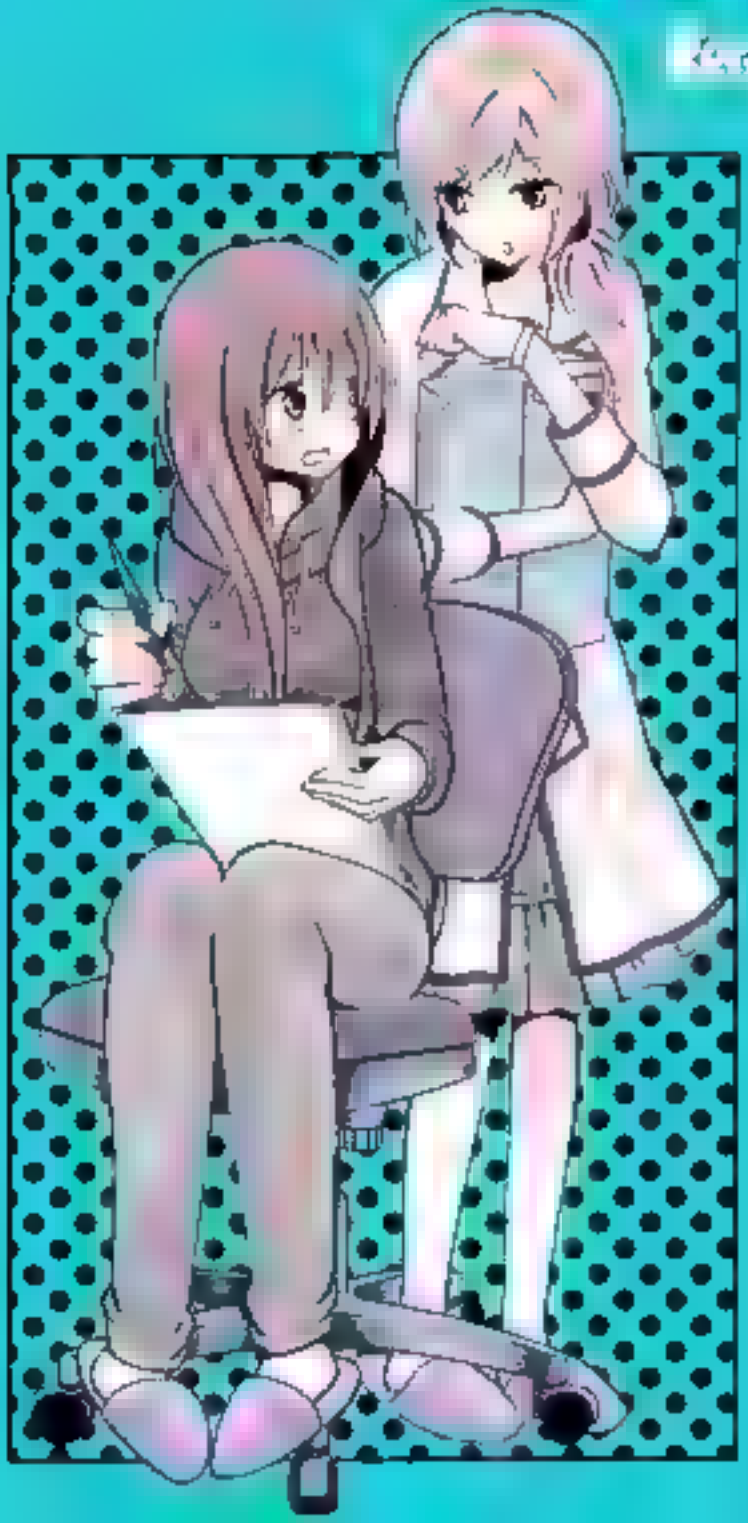
click

...ALL RIGHT!

.....

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.



CHAPTER 2

WHY ISN'T KUROI-SENSEI RANKED FIRST IN THE SURVEY?!

WHY?!

EVEN THOUGH SENSEI'S MANGA IS SO AMAZING...!!

AND BESIDES, I THINK 3RD PLACE IS PRETTY GOOD...

DON'T ASK ME...

RECENTLY, THE YOUNGER GENERATION HAS BEEN MOVING ON.

I CAN'T ALLOW IT...!!!

CHAPTER 2

YEAH,

I'M PRETTY SURE THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT'S GOING ON.

HMM?

IS SHE STILL AT HOME, PERPLEXED?

HOW HAS KUROI BEEN RECENTLY?

WELL I GUESS IT'S JUST A GOOD THING THAT SHE'S STILL ABLE TO DRAW.

AH-

WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THIS?!

Real person

Unfashionable.

Manga

Fashionable.

BECAUSE KUROI IS THE TYPE OF AUTHOR THAT IS REALLY INFLUENCED BY WHAT'S GOING ON IN HER LIFE.

DO YOU THINK SHE CAN HANDLE IT?

WELL, IF YOU THINK IT'S OK.

THEN YOU MIGHT TRY TAKING YOUR BUSI-NESS MEET-ING OUT THIS TIME.

For our next business meeting, how does it sound if we go out to eat?

We'll find a delicious place!♡

Sen-seeei!

GO OUT?!

.....

THE... CONVENIENCE STORE... AND THE SUPER-MARKET...

AH, WELL, SHE HAS TO GO OUT AND HAVE FUN OCCASIONALLY, RIGHT?

shake shake

...!!!

...SENSEI

GO-GOING OUT-SIDE... BAD FOR ME...

IT'S REALLY BAD FOR YOU IF YOU DON'T GET OUT MORE OFTEN!

WHERE DO YOU USUALLY GO OUT TO?

.....

IS THERE NOTHING YOU LIKE? LIKE A HOBBY OR SOMETHING YOU FIND FUN...

sigh

...SENSE...

WHY DO YOU GET LIKE THAT EVERY TIME WE TALK ABOUT THIS?

I DIDN'T MEAN IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!!

Within a 100 meter radius?!

Hii!

HAVE YOU BEEN SAVING FOR A WHILE? AND IF YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING, ARE YOU SAVING FOR SOMETHING IN PARTICULAR?

Not that it matters because you're so busy

Well now

BANK ACCOUNT!? SEEMS LIKE SHE'S GOT SOME MONEY...!!

NO...

...IT'S FOR WHEN I'M OLD, BECAUSE...

AND THEN... THERE'S CONFIRMING MY BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE... AND THEN...

!

TAROU'S TAKO-YAKI...

SOMETHING... FUN...?

...GAMES...?

Kuroi-Sensei's life plan.

① Be a Mangaka.

② Popularity falls, and can no longer work.

③ Survive off of savings from when she was popular.

④ And then finally...

WHEN I CAN NO LONGER WORK, I'LL STILL HAVE TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT MYSELF...

D-DIE ALONE...?

THIS... THIS IS NOT OK!

IT'S WAY TOO DARK...!!

AND THEN FINALLY?

THAT'S... THAT'S DARK...!!

SHE HAS TO BE THINKING THESE NEGATIVE THOUGHTS BECAUSE SHE'S SO SECLUDED!!

AS FOR OUR NEXT MEETING, THE ROPPONGI HILLS* IS YOUR NEXT MAIN SCENE RIGHT?

SENSEI!

SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE TO GET HER OUTSIDE AND...!!

AND IT ALSO HAS TO BE A BAD INFLUENCE ON HER WORK!!

*NOTE: ROPPONGI HILLS IS A NEW URBAN CENTRE AND ONE OF JAPAN'S LARGEST INTEGRATED PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS. LOCATED IN THE ROPPONGI DISTRICT OF MINATO TOKYO

WHY DON'T WE GO TOGETHER?!

I WAS PLANNING ON TAKING PICTURES OF THE HILLS FOR YOU, BUT,

YES... THAT'S RIGHT, BUT...

....!!

G- Go with so- someone that fashion- able ?!

WE'LL GATHER DATA TOGETHER.

?!

WON'T IT BE EASIER AND MORE PRACTICAL IF YOU TAKE THE PICTURES?

JUST DOESN'T HAVE THE ATTRAC-TION THAT HER MASTER-PIECE "WITH YOU" HAS.

SENSEI'S CURRENT WORK "I WANT TO BE HONEST",

IT ISN'T A MASTERPIECE LIKE "WITH YOU" IS...

"I WANT TO-" IS PLENTY INTEREST-ING TOO, BUT...

THERE ARE QUITE A FEW TIMES IN THE INDUSTRY WHERE AUTHORS CREATE A SINGLE MASTERPIECE, AND THEN DISAPPEAR AFTERWARD.

BUT KUROI-SENSEI IS DIFFERENT.

I BELIEVE SHE STILL HAS THE POTENTIAL, HIDDEN WITHIN HER, TO CREATE ANOTHER MASTERPIECE.

BECAUSE...

SO THEN, LET'S MEET AT ROPPONGI STATION AT...

That's

That's

Im-possi-ble

There's no fighting it!!

...I KNOW I COM-PLAINED ABOUT THE SURVEY TO THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF,

BUT I THINK I KIND OF ALREADY UNDER-STOOD.

THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN MAKE THE MANGA GREAT IS SENSEI.

BUT WITH THAT SAID,

SO THERE MUST BE SOMETHING I CAN DO!

She's the one who changed me...!

I BETTER NOT COMPROMISE WITH SENSEI LIKE I DID LAST TIME.

AND I SHOULD CHECK THE MANU-SCRIPTS TOO!

MAIDEN'S SELFISH BELIEF

PERHAPS THEY'RE STILL AROUND?

LET'S SEE.

I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHERE THE OLDER MANUSCRIPTS ENDED UP;

MORE SPECIFICALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE "WITH YOU" STORYBOARDS IF IT'S POSSIBLE...

BUT SINCE I'VE BEEN HERE, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE WE THROW THEM AWAY, SO...

!

Excuse me KONNO-SAN.

DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHERE ALL THE OLD STORYBOARDS ARE?

IT'S SOMEWHERE IN HERE.

CAN I

CAN I REALLY PULL OFF THIS EXCAVA-TION...?

OH NO!

IT'S ALREADY TIME FOR DATA COLLEC-TION!!

Waaah

....!!

IN THE FASHIONABLE TOWN OF ROPPONGI, SHE'S REALLY ON EDGE.

shake shake

YEAH...

IT'S... IT'S BE-CAUSE ...

IT'S... ON THE ANSWER-ING MA-CHINE...

YOU CAME AFTER ALL!

THANK GOOD-NESS

OVER HERE, SENSEI!

!!
.....

...And if you don't come, then...

beeeep

One new message.

OUR DATA COLLECTION IS TOMORROW, REMEMBER?

PLEEEASE DON'T FORGET ABOUT IT.

SENSEEEI. IT'S HADAAA.

I'VE BEEN CALLING A LOT, BUT ARE YOU ACTUALLY OUUUT?

YOU ONLY GO TO THE CONVENIENCE AND GROCERY STORES FOR SWEETS AFTER AAALL.

Pretending not to be home.

AH... UMM.

SORRY ABOUT THAT! THAT WAS A RATHER IMPO-LITE MESSAGE I LEFT!

!!!

OH YEAH!

IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, PLEASE TRY NOT TO GET LOST LIKE A CHILD, OK?

WELL, SHALL WE GET GOING?

NO... IT'S ALL RIGHT... IT'S ALL MY FAULT AFTER ALL, SO...

I'M SORRY IF I IGNORED YOUR CALLS AND YOU GOT NERV-OUS...

WORK HAS BEEN GETTING PRETTY BUSY AND WE DON'T REALLY HAVE A LOT OF FREE TIME.

pressure

BECAUSE OF HOW OLD YOU ARE, IT WOULD BE REALLY EMBARRASSING.

IN SUCH A FASHIONABLE PLACE LIKE THIS, LOOKING FOR A LOST CHILD WOULD BE REALLY AWFUL!

!

Are looking at me and laugh-ing...!!

Ahaha

Seriously?

THOSE PEOPLE ARE...

THOSE ....

SENSEI, DOESN'T THAT GEN-ERAL STORE LOOK KIND OF CUTE?

HUH?

SE-

SENSEI? WHAT'S WRONG?

.....

IT'S OBVIOUSLY YOUR IMAGINA-TION!!

Pointing at me and...

Those are the chills

Woooo!

THOSE ... THOSE PEOPLE ARE...

HUUUUH?

IT'S ALL IN YOUR IMAGINATION. I'M SURE THEY WERE LAUGHING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE...

Eep!

BECAUSE NOBODY IS PAYING ATTENTION TO YOU!!

YOU ARE SERIOUSLY WAY TOO SELF-CONSCIOUS!

SENSEI!

THIS IS A SERIOUS ILLNESS...!!

And that person too

And this person too...

Waaah

SHIVER

.....

HERE.

AFTER ALL, THESE ARE THE SHOTS OF THE GATE YOU WANTED.

WHOOSH

DO YOU THINK THIS ANGLE IS ALL RIGHT?

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE THE HILL'S PICTURES LIKE THAT.

She was so surprised she forgot her fears.

SHINE

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THESE?

AH... LET'S SEE...

AND THIS ONE TOO?!

COMMOTION

COMMOTION

beeep

HOW ABOUT THIS?

WOOSH

AH...

MAYBE IF THE ANGLE IS A LITTLE LOWER, YOU CAN GET MORE OF...

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

unsure...

LETS SEE...

THIS KIND OF FEEL ING...

AND YET IT'S THE SAME KUROI-SENSEI...

AND NOW SHE'S REALLY GETTING A HEAP OF ATTENTION, BUT NOT NEARLY

I THOUGHT THAT IF I TOOK A LOT OF PICTURES, THEN LATER I MIGHT TRY TO GO FOR DIFFERENT FEELINGS...

AHL

YOU REALLY FILLED THAT CAMERA UP, HUH?

step step step

HUH?

WHAT THE?!

SENSEI, HOW ABOUT WE LOOK AROUND IN THIS STORE FOR A BIT?

GLANCE

GLANCE

gasp!

HUH...

trot

trot

trot

SENSEI...?!

Fashionable people

I'm... lost...?!

I-

Fashionable people

shudder

.....

shudder

shake

shake

MAYBE SHE WENT HOME SINCE WE FINISHED COLLECTING DATA?

CRAP... I LOST HER...

MAYBE JUST THIS ONCE SHE WAS AN ADULT...

....!!

IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO SENSEI...!!

...IT'S NO GOOD!

IN HER CASE, I SERIOUSLY COULDN'T BE OUT OF MIND!

SEN-SEEE!!

WHERE ARE YOU SENSEEE!!

Stare

PLEASE ANSWER ME..!

Stare

SEEEN-SEI!!

What's with her?

giggle giggle

Why? What?

HA-...

.....

HARUKA-
SAN...

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

YOU... YOU DISAP-PEARED AND...

.....

I'M SORRY! I WAS DISTRACTED BY A STORE DISPLAY...

SENSEI! THANK GOOD-NESS...!!

DAMN!

WHAT'S WITH ME...

AND SHE'S ALWAYS SUCH A TROUBLESOME PERSON...

EVEN THOUGH I ALWAYS SEE HER AT WORK.

I DON'T GET IT...

badump

badump

WH- WHAT'S THIS FEELING

WHY IS MY HEART POUNDING LIKE THIS...!?

...I'M... SORRY FOR ALWAYS CAUSING YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE...!!

Y- YES?!

HARUKA-SAN?

I STARTED FEELING THIS WAY WHEN SHE CALLED MY NAME..."HARUKA -SAN" SHE SAID...

UGH...

So you did know you can be a pain?

IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'VE ALREADY GOTTEN USED TO IT.

UM...

I'LL ALSO ASSIST AS BEST I CAN.

THAT WOULD MAKE ME THE HAPPI-EST.

WELL THEN,

PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO MAKE AN INTER-ESTING MANGA

IS THERE ANY WAY I CAN SHOW MY THANKS...

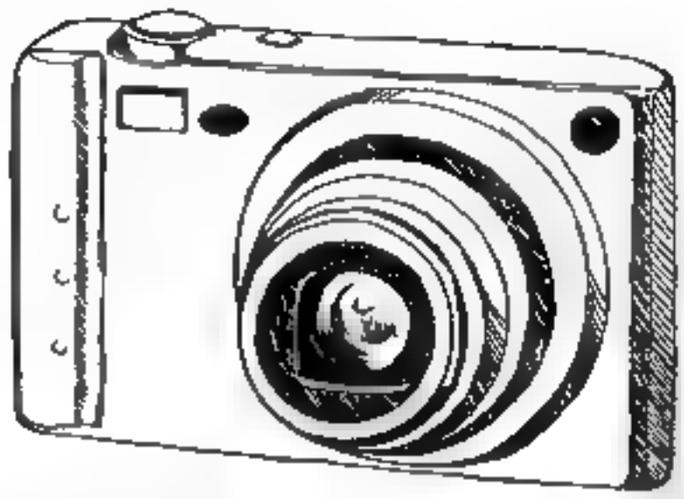
YOU'RE ALWAYS HELPING ME...

...OKAY...

!

I'm looking forward to the new master-piece you'll make next!♥

THEN, WHEN WE GET BACK, LET'S GET STARTED ON THE STORY-BOARD RIGHT AWAY!!



My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.

Not Yo Renai Manga chapter 2

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CHAPTER 3

I'M TELLING YOU I'M NOT DOING THE MARRIAGE INTERVIEW!

AND THAT'S WHY,

HUH? HOLD ON! I DON'T THINK I HEARD YOU!

IF YOU REALLY HAVE SOMEONE THERE, THEN MAYBE YOU COULD INTRODUCE...

AH...

I'M SO HUNGRY! WELL, I'M HANGING UP!

click

Manatane

THERE IS SOMEONE TO EAT IT WITH ME.

...

COME ON, I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF COOKING!

I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL, SO I'M HANGING UP ON YOU.

...ALL RIGHT.

IT'S DONE!

I WONDER IF SHE'LL LIKE IT?

YOU KNOW, BEING GOOD AT COOKING IS MORE REWARDING WHEN YOU HAVE SOMEONE ELSE TO EAT IT WITH.

CHAPTER 3

SENSEI!

YOUR MEAL IS READY!

CLINK

CLINK

CLACK

Now, say Ahhh. ♡

WHEN YOU'RE SICK, KEEPING A STRICT DIET IS A MUST!

Ah, ah, umm... I'm not sure someone like me can appreciate food like this...

Oh! blush

It's deli-cious

IT'S BEEN SEVERAL MONTHS SINCE I'VE BEEN PUT IN CHARGE OF THE MANGAKA I ADMIRE SO MUCH, KUROI-SENSEI.

achoo!

...!

Haruka-san ..it hurt—

Ha .

I'M TAKING CARE OF SENSEI EVERY DAY UNTIL SHE RECOVERS!

stuff

stuff

DESPITE BEING SHOCKED AT FIRST ABOUT SENSEI'S SURPRISINGLY DARK AND INTROVERTED PERSONALITY, WHICH WAS NOTHING LIKE HER FASHION SAVVY WRITING.

AND THIS IS WHY...

WE'VE BEEN INTERACTING VERY WELL...

cough

TH-THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL... I'M GOING...

To do the draft...

stagger

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? PLEASE GET A LITTLE REST!

B-BUT...
IF YOU PUSH YOURSELF, YOU'LL ONLY END UP GET-TING WORSE AND THEN THIS WILL ALL BE FOR NOTHING!
BOO
KYU

I'LL WAIT RIGHT HERE UNTIL YOU FALL ASLEEP!
IF I GO HOME NOW, THEN YOU'LL JUST TRY TO WORK AGAIN.
HA...
HARUKA-SAN?
THUD

I'VE ALWAYS LIVED A SOLITARY KIND OF LIFESTYLE.

WHENEVER I GET SICK, I'VE ALWAYS HAD TO TAKE CARE OF MYSELF...

...

SEN-SEI?

IT SURE IS NICE HAVING SOMEBODY LOOK AFTER YOU...

!

!

YOU CAN RELY ON THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF FOR THINGS LIKE THIS TOO, YOU KNOW!

It's my responsibility, so it's only natural I'd do something like this

It's .

GAAA

PLEASE REST UP AND GET WELL AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

SO...

...

YES...

I WONDER IF ME SITTING HERE IS ACTUALLY HELPFUL?

THANK GOODNESS SENSEI WAS GOOD FOR ME.

WELL? HOW'S KUROI DOING?

...

WE'RE ALLOWING HER TO SKIP THE MANUSCRIPT, SO YOU BETTER BE TAKING GOOD CARE OF HER.

CONFIDENT!

BECAUSE I FED HER SOME OF MY HOME COOKING!

OH COME ON...

EVEN CALLING WHILE I'M AT WORK...

click

EVERY-THING'S FINE!

WHAT'S WRONG? ENJOYING THE BACHELORETTE LIFE?

ISN'T THAT ALL RIGHT? YOU'RE ABOUT THE RIGHT AGE.

NO, IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT...

IT WAS MY MOTHER.

LATELY, ALL SHE WANTS TO TALK ABOUT IS MARRIAGE INTERVIEW...

NO WAY!

WHAT'S THAT ABOUT? YOUR BOY-FRIEND?

I HONESTLY CAN'T THINK ABOUT THINGS LIKE MARRIAGE...

RIGHT NOW, MY HEAD'S SO FULL OF WORK.

groan

YOU TALK LIKE YOU CAN'T HAVE BOTH. YOU CAN HAVE A MARRIAGE AND A CAREER!

THAT SOUNDS LIKE AN EXCUSE.

LOSER'S WINNER

DIE!!

Ahh!

AND KONNO-SAN IS ALMOST...

BUT YOU'RE HEADING FOR YOUR THIRTIES, HADA-SAN.

I'M NOT EVEN 24 YET, SO I DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT KIND OF THING.♪

THAT'S WHY

JUST BARELY GETTING MY BELOVED KUROI-SENSEI TO BE ABLE TO DO HER JOB.

EVEN THOUGH I'VE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO FOCUS ON ONE THING.

I'VE BEEN SO BUSY WITH WORK THAT I DON'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE.

HUH? YOU'RE SEARCH-ING FOR SOME-THING HERE?

IT'S FINE, SO BE QUIET AND HELP.

RIGHT NOW, I WANT TO BE CLOSER TO KUROI-SENSEI.

I WAS SAVED BY WITH YOU.

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

WHACK

IT MAY BE MY MOST IMPORT-ANT TASK TO HELP SENSEI MAKE THE BEST MANGA BUT...

DOES SOMEONE REALLY NEED TO BE SAVED FOR THAT THOUGH?

...AH!

I DIDN'T THINK I WOULD ACTUALLY FIND IT!

HERE IT IS!

IXOU

HUH?

IS THIS... THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF?

BUT IT COULDN'T BE WHEN SHE WAS WRITING "WITH YOU"...

I HEARD THAT SHE WAS KUROI-SENSEI'S SUPERVISOR A LONG TIME AGO...

WHOA, WHOA, AMAZING!

THEY EVEN SAVED THE FAXES THEY USED TO COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER!

Super precious!

I REALLY WANT TO READ IT ALL NOW, BUT...

AH! I'M GETTING WORRIED!

THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND I ARE ABOUT...?

THIS IS FROM WHEN SENSEI WAS STILL IN HER TEENS...

flip

flip

flip

HELLO?

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU NOT CALL ME WHILE I'M AT WORK...

Mom

I REALLY NEED TO GET THE DRAFT FROM SENSEI.

THERE ARE TOO MANY DISTRACTIONS TO READ IT HERE.

HUH?

ふ～ふふ～

SURE...

IF YOU FINISH THE DRAFT THIS WEEKEND, WOULD YOU FAX IT TO MY PARENTS HOUSE?

Here's the number

NOT AT ALL!

A HOME-COMING? SOUNDS NICE...

I'M SORRY,

I HAVE TO GO VISIT MY PARENTS THIS WEEK-END...

RECENTLY, THEY'VE REALLY BEEN PUSHING ME TO GO TO MARRIAGE INTERVIEWS.

...

MARRIAGE INTER-VIEWS?

SINCE I'M HEADING STRAIGHT TO MY PARENTS TODAY, WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO MAKE SOMETHING TO EAT?

OH,

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS.

PLEASE KEEP WORKING AS IF WE WERE MEETING NORMALLY.

IF ONLY SHE THOUGHT MORE ABOUT MY SITUATION, SHE'D REJECT THESE...

EXACTLY. MY MOM DECIDED IT ALL ON HER OWN.

...

This really is the worst.

THAT'S NO GOOD. WHAT IF YOU AREN'T FULLY RECOVERED YET?

YOU WON'T GET YOUR NOURISH-MENT!

I'm... all right... I've already recovered from my cold so...

UM...

N-NO, THANK YOU...

I REALLY CAN'T LEAVE YOU ALONE WITHOUT AT LEAST COOKING YOU SOME-THING...

STEP

I CAN... TAKE CARE OF IT... MYSELF... KID...

SCREW ABOUT THAT...

MAYBE I WENT OVERBOARD...

OR MAYBE I'VE BEEN HANGING AROUND TOO MUCH AND GETTING IN THE WAY OF HER WORK...

gasp

*NOTE: SWEET BEAN JELLY.

SOMEONE GAVE ME YOUKAN* TODAY, WANT SOME?

...NO THANKS.

PLEASE TRY TO EAT A LITTLE SOMETHING.

WELL THEN, I'M HEADING OUT FOR TODAY.

...

HARU-KAAA.

THAT WEEK-END.

I GET IT NOW.

flip flip flip flip

AND READ IT ALL....

I TOOK THE OLD DRAFTS OF "WITH YOU" AND ALL THE MESSAGES BETWEEN SENSEI AND THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF FROM BACK THEN.

SINCE I WOULD HAVE A LOT OF SPARE TIME AT MY PARENTS' HOUSE,

Thank you very much for the other day. It was fun. Meeting

It's Kuroi, Thank you very much for taking me to that wonderful store yesterday. About the progress of the draft, it's about half finished.

I have a few questions about what you think about how the plot's progressing. In case there's something that feels unnatural,

IN TOKYO, SHE LOOKED UP TO THE HARD-WORKING WOMAN THAT WAS HER EDITOR, AND WHEN HER EYES SPARKLED, THINGS BEGAN TO TAKE FORM.

SHE WAS ONLY A YOUNG TEENAGE GIRL WHEN SHE DEBUTED AS A MANGAKA.

SENSEI WANTED TO MAKE THE KIND OF MANGA THAT WOULD MAKE THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF PROUD.

THAT MANGA WAS "WITH YOU"!

KUROI IS THE TYPE OF AUTHOR WHO MIRRORS THE BEAUTY OF HER DAILY LIFE IN HER WORK, THEREFORE,

"THE HARD-WORKING HARUKA WHO BECAME A MODEL" WAS BASED ON THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF...

THE THREE VOLUMES OF "WITH YOU" ARE...

THIS STORY ABOUT HEADING TO SHIBUYA.

FIRST, "THE DARK HARUKA BEFORE HER TRANS-FORMATION" WAS BASED ON SENSEI.

The speech you used in this issue was wonderful! Your good taste really shined in it! Your skill is really improving, huh! (laugh)

AND THIS IS... THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S RESPONSE...

The last chapter was rated by far the best in the survey! This episode was especially popular because the readers really liked the

BUT BY TELLING HER LIKE THIS, I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW SHE'S NOT PAMPERING HER.

SHE WAS JUST CAREFULLY TELLING HER THE DETAILS USING HER FAN'S PRAISE...

FROM THESE PAGES...

YOU CAN SEE THE RELATIONSHIP OF TRUST AND TEAMWORK THESE TWO SHARED.

TWO, THREE MORE CORRECTED DRAFTS ARE PILED UP HERE...

I DON'T KNOW HOW SENSEI RESPONDED TO SUCH STRICT SUPERVISION.

SHE HAD TO FIX THE DRAFTS SO MANY TIMES...

AND THE DRAFTS ARE COVERED IN RED COLORED CORRECTIONS.

WAS THE BIRTH OF A MASTERPIECE.

THE RESULT...

THEIR TEAMWORK REALLY RESO-NATES.

A WRITER AND AN EDITOR CREATING ONE STYLE AND MAKING SUCH A WONDERFUL THING TOGETHER.

IT'S NO GOOD. I...

...

Even though it's late at night, could you please

Thank you very mu

And about the

I'm sorry

your assista

draft

I've made a dramatic decision!

Let's go out to eat tonight!

I PLANNED ON DOING MY BEST, BUT I CAN'T DO THIS AT ALL!

HE WORKS AT THE LOCAL CREDIT UNION...

Oh really? I work for a Tokyo publishing company

Really? Is that so?

Does your job keep you really busy?

HARUKA-CHAN, THIS IS KOMATSU-SAN.

HURRY UP...

I WANT TO GET BACK TO TOKYO.

Why, yes, it doooes!

TO RETURN AND MEET WITH SENSEI.

chatter

HELLO.

SENSEI?

Tokyo

chatter

IT'S HADA.

I JUST GOT BACK FROM MY PARENTS' HOUSE.

WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT IF I CAME OVER TO ASK YOU SOMETHING?

UM...

SO NOW...

I WANT TO HAVE A TALK WITH SENSEI!

CAN I DRAW OUT HER TRUE POTENTIAL?

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO SATISFY SENSEI ENOUGH FOR HER JOB?

I'D ALSO LIKE TO BRING YOU SOME SOUVENIRS I BOUGHT.

THAT AND...

UMM...

...

SENSEI?

I'VE BEEN ALLOWING YOU TO SPOIL ME.

...HUH?

...!

I CAN TAKE CARE OF MY WELL-BEING ON MY OWN...

YOU'VE TAKEN CARE OF ME SO MUCH, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT ANYMORE...

THE WAY OUR PARTNERSHIP HAS BEEN— YOU CARING FOR ME LIKE A NURSE— IS NOT WHAT A PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIP SHOULD BE...

I'M SORRY...

COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE STILL NOT FEELING WE—

DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?

I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT SENDING THE DRAFT TO YOUR PARENTS' HOUSE.

I'LL FAX IT TO THE EDITING DEPARTMENT TOMORROW MORNING.

IT SEEMED...

THE FAXES WERE SO DIFFERENT.

WHEN IT WAS THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF. THEY DIDN'T FIGHT LIKE THIS!

...

I... UNDER-STAND...

AND ABOUT OUR MEETINGS... COMING ALL THE WAY TO MY HOUSE ISN'T NECESSARY. JUST OVER THE PHONE IS FINE.

UP UNTIL NOW EVERYONE HAS BEEN DOING SO MUCH FOR ME, SO...

DID I DO SOME-THING WRONG?

...

ALL RIGHT...

WELL THEN... PLEASE EXCUSE ME...

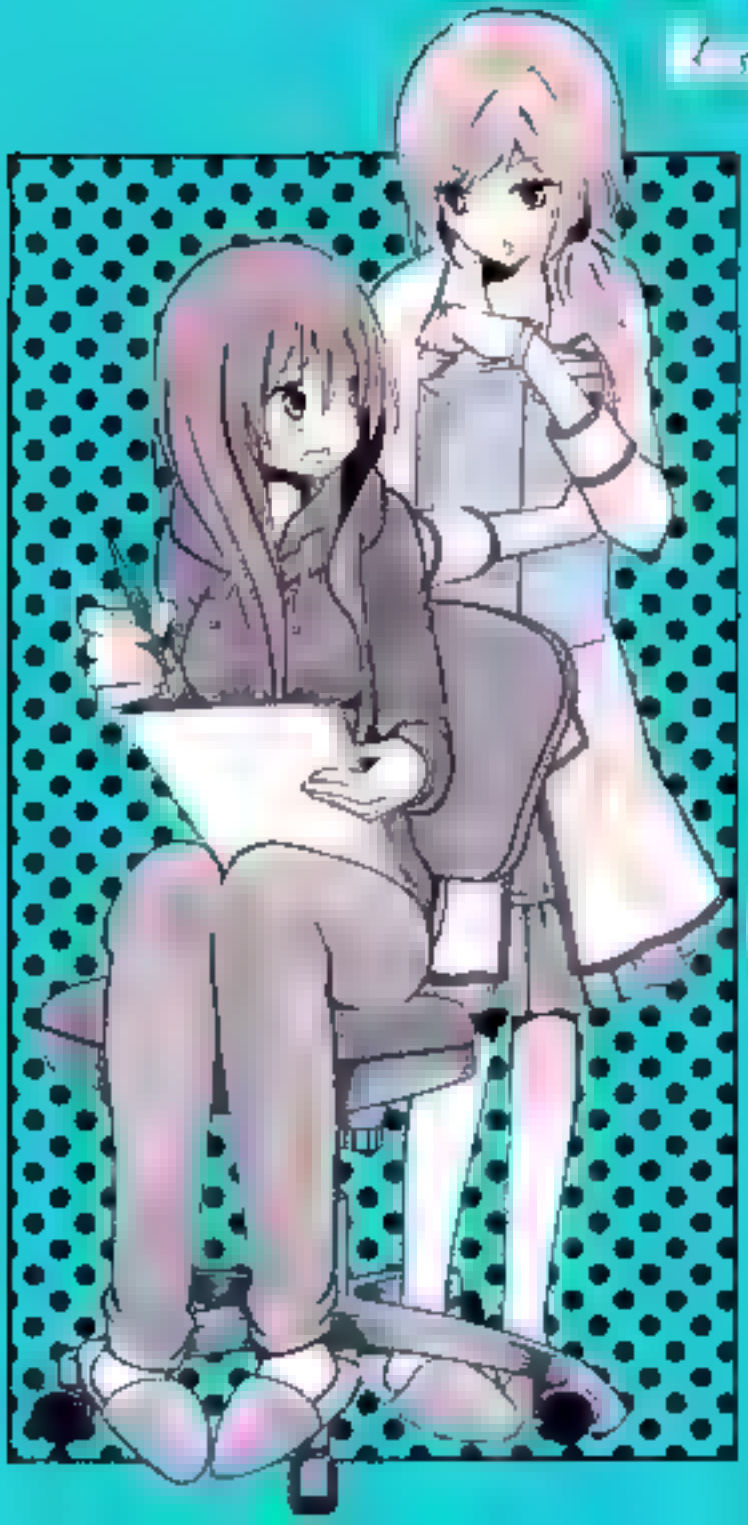
THE FOLLOWING MONTH.

THE LOWEST RANKING IT HAD RECEIVED SINCE IT BEGAN.

SENSEI'S CURRENT WORK, "I WANT TO BE HONEST," FELL TO 5TH PLACE IN THE SURVEY RANKINGS.

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.



SWEETS 10

October SWEETS Megaz
The works that you liked
Please choose 3
1.Lovingly Bankrupt
4.I Want to be Honest.
5.Love's
7.DokiDoki Love Fortunes
8.Nyanta
10.Magical * Fever
13. Love Training!
16. Switch * Member

1

MY APOLOGIES...!

CHAPTER 4

IT WAS MY RESPONSIBILITY, SO I'M TO BLAME.

WELL, THAT IS A PROBLEM, CONSIDERING THE RANK HAS FALLEN THIS LOW.

HMM...

YES...

HUH?

UP UNTIL RECENTLY, KUROI'S MOOD HAS REALLY BEEN UP AND DOWN.

BUT THIS CHANGE ISN'T A BAD THING.

SINK-

SO, THIS IS PROBABLY A SIGN OF WHAT SHE'S FEELING.

WHETHER THAT'S A BAD SIGN OR NOT, I'M NOT SO SURE...

...I WONDER WHAT SHE'LL DO.

THIS MIGHT BE THE CRITICAL MOMENT FOR KUROI AS A MANGAKA.

CRITICAL MOMENT...?

CHAPTER 4

CRUMPLE

Big hit!

Over 2,500,000 sold!

1-3 Kurai Ritsuko

YOU DRAW MANGA IN YOUR NOTE-BOOK?

KUROI-SAN,

WHOA!

SCHOOL WAS PAINFUL

LET'S GO

AH SURE.

UHM...

AH...

ACTUALLY, IT'S A LITTLE GROSS.

IT'S NOT DARK...

HMM

PLEASE GIVE IT BACK...

squish

BUT FOR ME,

THE PAGES IN MANGA WERE THE ONLY PLACE I FOUND MEANING AND COMFORT.

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

I DIDN'T FIT IN ANY-WHERE.

...!

IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU KUROI-SAN. MY NAME IS ITOU, AND I'LL BE ASSISTING YOU FROM NOW ON...

MANGA WAS MY LIFE.

WHOA... SHE'S SUCH A PRETTY OL-SAN!*

...IS WHAT I WOULD SAY, BUT WE'VE ALREADY SPOKEN SEVERAL TIMES OVER THE PHONE.

Pleased to meet you!

*Note OL is Japanese slang for "Office Lady."

I-I'M KU-KU-KU-KUROI...!

AH...

AH, UM—

giggle

NOW SHE THINKS I'M WEIRD...!

I REALLY DID IT...

EMBARRASSED

I MIGHT SEEM PRETTY SCARY WHEN YOU FIRST LOOK AT ME, BUT I PROMISE I'M A VERY GENTLE PERSON.

HAHA!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THAT TENSE.

PAT

IT WAS THE FIRST— TIME I FELT LIKE I WAS IMPORTANT.

I'VE TAKEN A LOOK AT YOUR WORK, AND I THINK IT'S AMAZING.

LET'S DO OUR BEST TOGETHER ON YOUR DEBUT!

WITH MY DEBUT DECIDED, I WENT TO THE CAPITAL.

THUS, THE DAYS OF ITOU-SAN ASSISTING ME WITH MY WORK BEGAN.

KUROI-SAN, THIS IS AMAZING!

THE FIRST CHAPTER OF "WITH YOU" HAS PRE-SOLD SO WELL THAT IT'S GOING TO NEED EXTRA PRINTING!

...!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR BIG HIT!

I—

BECAUSE I DIDN'T THINK ANYONE WOULD CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT...

LISTEN HERE...

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT,

—HELLO?

AH, SENSEI? GREAT WORK TODAY, IT'S HADA.

Ring Ring

I UNDER-STAND...

I REALLY WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH YOU ONE MORE TIME...!

SO THEN.. FOR TONIGHT'S MEETING I'D LIKE TO PROOFREAD IT ONE MORE TIME...

...IT'S MY FAULT. I'M SO SORRY!

UM, REGARDING THIS ISSUE'S SURVEY...

GLOOOOOM

TH-THIS HEAVY ATMOSPHERE ...!

GLANCE

WHY DO I GET THE FEELING I'VE DONE SOMETHING WRONG...?

IT KIND OF FEELS LIKE...

maybe it affected her drawing.

maybe it was the food I forced on her

SENSEI IS ABOUT TO GET RID OF ME.

SHOCK

...

I WONDER WHAT I DID WRONG...

WE DIDN'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING IMPORTANT TO SAY IN THE END.

WELL THEN. HAVE A PLEASANT DAY.

WHAT COULD I HAVE DONE TO UPSET SENSEI...?

I CAN'T STOP SHAKING.

THE LEAST I CAN DO IN RETURN IS TO DO MY BEST...!

HOW CAN SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PERSON LIKE HER SHOW ME SUCH KINDNESS?

SWEETS Editorial Department

Itou Akae

ITOU-SAN...

HUH...?

AN EXCHANGE?

I THOUGHT THOSE DAYS OF SUCCESS WOULD NEVER END.

MY WORK WENT OFF WITHOUT A HITCH.

IT'S JUST PREPARATIONS, SINCE I'M GETTING MARRIED AND ALL.

It's not like I'm scheduling motherhood

MATERNITY LEAVE...?

I'LL BE GOING ON MATERNITY LEAVE SOON.

YES, I'M SORRY.

MA-

THEY WERE ASSISTANTS THAT WERE PICKED FOR ME FOR MY DEBUT AS A MANGAKA, AND THEY EITHER LEFT OR GAVE UP.

EVERYONE FROM THESE PAST 2 YEARS IS ALL I'VE KNOWN.

I DON'T KNOW ANYONE ELSE IN TOKYO.

THE ONLY OTHER PEOPLE I KNOW ARE MY ASSISTANTS.

THE ONLY PERSON I'VE BEEN TOGETHER WITH ALL THIS TIME IS ITOU-SAN.

I'VE ONLY SPOKEN TO HER REGARDING WORK.

THE ONLY THING I CAN THINK ABOUT IS THAT...

HUH? WHY DO I FEEL SO SHOCKED?

SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO TRULY NOTICED ME.

I'M SURE I WAS NOTHING SPECIAL.

TO ITOU-SAN, WAS I JUST ONE OF THE MANY MANGAKAS SHE'S WORKED WITH...?

BUT NOW, ITOU-SAN HAS SOME-ONE SPECIAL...

TO ME, ITOU-SAN WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO SEE THE REAL ME.

THE TIMES WE MET, THE TIMES WE SPOKE...

...I ALWAYS THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE.

I CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS...

BUT DON'T WORRY! I'M SURE YOUR NEXT WORK WILL BE A BIG HIT!

THE FINAL CHAPTER OF "WITH YOU" WAS ONLY RANKED 3RD...

SORRY, BUT,

WHENEVER SOMEONE I DEPENDED ON

EVEN THOUGH, IN THIS BUSINESS

I CAN ONLY DRAW MANGA IF I RELY ON MY OWN FEELINGS.

I CAN'T ALLOW MY HEART TO WAVER.

I LOOKED OVER THE DRAFT.

IT'S JUST... THE TIME BEFORE, AND THIS TIME, I KEEP LOOKING IT OVER AND IT JUST-

I WON'T RELY ON ANYONE ANYMORE.

I'LL DO MY BEST ON MY OWN...!

YOU COULD SAY THAT I'M CURLING MYSELF INTO A BALL.

AND SENSEI'S PROCRASTINATING AGAIN, BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T FEEL LIKE DRAWING ANYTHING.

YES.

FORGIVE ME, I'LL GO OVER IT ONE MORE TIME.

Click

IT COULD POSSIBLY BE THE SURVEY RESULTS, BUT I GET THE FEELING IT MIGHT BE SOMETHING ELSE...

SENSEI'S STRONG POINTS AREN'T COMING OUT AT ALL.

DOES SENSEI'S MOOD REALLY HAVE AN AFFECT ON HER WORK?

THIS FEELING FROM HER WORK PROBABLY HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH ME...

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS THAT I'M HELPING SENSEI WRITE GREAT MANGA.

IF THAT MEANS THAT STEPPING DOWN IS THE ONLY WAY FOR HER TO IMPROVE, THEN FOR SENSEI'S SAKE, MAYBE I SHOULD THINK ABOUT IT.

...MAYBE IT WOULD BE BEST IF I STEPPED BACK.

BUT IF I'M A HINDRANCE TO SENSEI...

IT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY DREAM TO WORK WITH SENSEI.

I HAVE TO ADMIRE HER FOR HER TENACITY WITH ALL THE PREVIOUS EDITORS.

HOW MANY TIMES HAS HER EDITOR BEEN REPLACED?

...

I...

HARUKA!

THANK GOODNESS!

YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO GET YOUR PRIORITIES STRAIGHT, YOU KNOW.

AHHH!

FROM THE MARRIAGE MEETING!

Right!

AH...

JUST BECAUSE I'M ABSENT-MINDED DOESN'T MEAN I'M NOT WORRYING ABOUT IMPORTANT THINGS, YOU KNOW...

KOMATSU-SAN... WHO'S THAT?

DID YOU REALLY JUST ASK THAT?

KOMATSU-SAN SAID HE WANTED TO MEET YOU AGAIN.

HUH...?

QUITTING WORK AND GETTING MARRIED...

...SOMETHING LIKE THAT MIGHT BE GOOD.

ISN'T THIS WONDERFUL? LET'S GIVE IT A SHOT!

...

I GUESS...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

BECAUSE I DIDN'T THINK ANYONE WOULD CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT...

I-

CONGRAT-ULATIONS ON YOUR BIG HIT!

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.

LISTEN HERE..

..LOOK AT THIS.

AFTER READING KUROI-SENSEI'S MANGA, I FEEL LIKE I CAN REALLY CHANGE."

IT SAYS, "IT'S COMPLICATED BUT WHILE I'M SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T REALLY HAVE FRIENDS,

THIS KID THINKS SO, TOO!

...?

BUT HEARING HOW YOU GAVE STRENGTH TO SOMEONE IS WHERE YOU GET YOUR TRUE HAPPINESS FROM

GRIP

IN THE MAGAZINE BUSINESS,

SURVEY PLACEMENTS, SALES NUMBERS, AND VARIOUS STATISTICS CAN SHOW CERTAIN THINGS.

...

RIGHT...

gasp

RUB...

...

THAT'S RIGHT...

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.

CHAPTER 5

ONE WEEK AFTER SENSEI CUT OFF CONTACT.

CHATTER

CHATTER

SENSEI,

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

I CAN'T TURN SOMETHING LIKE THIS IN.

BUT TIME IS...

IT'S AL-RIGHT.

I'LL FIX IT A LITTLE MORE.

EVEN IF YOU'RE UNABLE TO FIX IT

PLEASE BE SURE TO TURN IT IN, AS-IS, THIS TIME.

I FORGOT THAT IT'S MY READERS I DRAW FOR...

I UNDER-STAND.

I'M SORRY, BUT I NEED TO FOCUS, SO PLEASE DON'T CONTACT ME BY PHONE FOR AWHILE.

SENSEI ...

I WANT TO DO THIS FOR MY READERS.

HUH?

IT'S BEEN A WEEK?

...

THAT WAY, I CAN BE SURE TO FINISH THE MANU-SCRIPT.

I'M SORRY, I CAN'T DO THAT.

...

SURELY YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENS TO HER WORK IF SHE DOESN'T TURN IT IN BY THE DEADLINE.

GET KUROI ON THE PHONE RIGHT NOW.

IS IT ALRIGHT? WE CAN EXTEND IT TO...

THE MORNING OF THE 26TH!

IS THIS THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT?

ABOUT THE PRINTING DATE OF KUROI-SENSEI'S MANU-SCRIPT...

SINCE IT'S SENSEI, IT'LL BE ALRIGHT!

I'LL MAKE THE NEGO-TIATIONS WITH THE PRINTING DEPART-MENT!

BOW BOW BOW

SORRY FOR CAUSING ANY TROUBLE!

THANK YOU SO MUCH ...!

WE CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER THAN THAT!

THIS IS GOING TO BE THE FINAL DATE THOUGH!

I'M REALLY NOT QUALIFIED TO BE DISCUSSING THE MANU-SCRIPT LIKE THIS...

But...

I FINISHED THE MANU-SCRIPT...!

...!

RIING

HELLO! SWEET'S EDITORIAL DEPART-MENT.

IT'S KUROI!

NOW I JUST HAVE TO BELIEVE IN HER ...

THIS LITTLE BIT IS ALL I CAN DO FOR SENSEI ...

I'M SO SORRY.

I GOT CAUGHT UP WITH PROOF-READING ...

Editorial Department

AND SINCE SENSEI HASN'T GIVEN ME THE MANUSCRIPT YET, I NOW HAVE TO GO TO HER APARTMENT TO GET IT...

I HAVE THIS HUGE DEADLINE TOMORROW MORNING.

I'VE SCREWED UP OUR PLANS TONIGHT ...

I SEE.

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A PAIN.

YOU SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE A LITTLE OUT OF IT?

IT'S JUST... DURING THE MARRIAGE INTERVIEW.

OH NO, IT'S FINE! I WAS IN THE CITY ANYWAY!

I'M SO SORRY, KOMATSU-SAN, AND YOU EVEN CAME ALL THE WAY INTO TOKYO...

AND EVEN TO MY WORK.

!

SO I THOUGHT MAYBE WE COULD GET TOGETHER WHEN YOU WEREN'T SO PREOCCUPIED.

I JUST THOUGHT SOMETHING WAS BOTHERING YOU, THAT'S ALL

OH NO NO!

I'M SORRY ...

... UHHH ...

SLUMP

UH ...

I, UH ...

THAT'S BE-CAUSE ...

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

THAT IS...

AH ...

THE TRUTH IS, I STILL AM.

THAT WAS...

I WAS ACTUALLY REALLY WORRIED ABOUT WORK...

——————...

A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON

HAS GOTTEN VERY UPSET WITH ME.

...

AN IMPORTANT PERSON ...

THUMP

UM ...

DOES THAT-

ARE YOU STILL TALKING ABOUT YOUR JOB?

E-EXCUSE ME!

BZZZT BZZZT

COMING CALL DI RITSU

HELLO, SENSEI?

WHAT ...?

I- I'M SORRY... THIS DRAFT JUST REQUIRES SO MUCH ...

AND I FORGOT THE EXTRA TONER ...

?

YOU RAN OUT OF SCREEN-TONER?

HOW'S THE INKING GOING?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN WHILE TYPE-SETTING...?

HUH?

WHAT SHADE OF TONER DO YOU NEED?

IS THERE ANOTHER KIND OF TONE YOU CAN USE INSTEAD?

THE ASSISTANTS ALSO HAVE THEIR HANDS FULL...

WH- WHAT SHOULD I DO... THE ART SHOPS ARE CLOSED BY NOW, AND I CAN'T GET IT ONLINE FAST ENOUGH.

←"MISAKI"
PROTAGONIST NEEDS A LOT

WITH NO TONER HER HAIR IS PURE WHITE.

...

UM ...

IT'S THE TONER FOR "MISAKI'S" HAIR...

...

YOU'RE NOT CAUSING ME TROUBLE.

I'M S-SORRY ...

THIS IS MY JOB AFTER ALL!

IN THE END, I REALLY CAUSED YOU TROUBLE ...

WHAT'S THE PATTERN NUMBER AND MANU-FACTURER FOR THE TONER?

IS THERE ANY OTHER SPECI-FICATION I NEED TO KNOW?

I UNDER-STAND!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!

SO PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT

AND FOCUS ON DRAWING FOR YOUR READERS!

... UGH

I'M SORRY I CAN'T SEE YOU OFF!

RUN

I'M SORRY.

BOW

TURN

THIS IS A BIT OF AN EMERGENCY.

CLINK

AND FOCUS ON DRAWING FOR YOUR READERS!

SQUEEZE

HARUKA-SAN...

CLICK CLICK CLICK

SEN-SEI ...

SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE

HUH?

WHAT HAPPENED?

RAN OUT OF TONER?

IS IT REALLY OK TO BE DOING THIS SO LAST-MINUTE?

KONNO-SAN,

CAN YOU PLEASE GIVE ME SAKURAI-SENSEI AND MITSURUGI-SENSEI'S PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES?

CAN YOU ALSO GIVE ME THEIR CELL NUMBERS AS WELL?

COULD YOU POSSIBLY LEND ME #62 TONER FROM DELETER?

I'LL BUY SOME REPLACE-MENTS FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.

UM,

I'M SORRY IT'S SO LATE.

I'M HARUKA FROM THE SWEETS EDITORIAL DEPART-MENT.

WHAT'S WRONG?

EVEN THOUGH THIS IS AN EMERGENCY...

KICHI-JOUJI PLEASE.

I'M HEADING OVER RIGHT NOW.

YES, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SQUEE"

AND
SOMETHING
ABOUT
WHAT
BE NICE

DOING
IT HE'S
THINKIN
ME
NICE
TO

WHY AM
I BE DOING
ME MAKING
THIS NICE
SOME

I JUST SHUDDERED BECAUSE SENSEI SAID "I'LL BE LEAVING!"

IF I DON'T

I DON'T WANT

AFTER ALL, SENSEI IS THE ONE WHO TURNED ME INTO THE PERSON I AM TODAY...!

I'VE FINISHED ...

... THE INKING

CLACK

CLACK

UMM ...

AH ...

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE "DELICATE" HAIR, IT'S FINISHED.

LEAVE THE FINISHING TOUCHES TO US!

IT'S ALRIGHT.

SLAM

THANK YOU ...

SLAM

...

SO HURRY UP AND GET THAT TONER!

BEEP

THE PHONE YOU HAVE CALLED IS CURRENTLY TURNED OFF OR OUT OF SERVICE ...

CALLING HADA HARUKA

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

HELLO, SWEETS EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

!

DUMP

UH

IT'S BEEN A WHILE

HAVEN'T REALLY SPOKEN SINCE WE STOPPED WORKING TOGETHER, HAVE WE?

IT'S BEEN SO LONG! YOU HAVEN'T SHOWN YOUR FACE AT ANY OF OUR GET-TOGETHERS!

YES.

SHE WAS TRYING ONE LAST PLACE WHEN I LAST HEARD FROM HER.

SHE'S OUT GATHERING TONER FROM OTHER ARTISTS' PLACES.

SHE SHOULD TURN UP SOON ENOUGH!!!

HADA-SAN...

HADA-SAN, DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE IS...

...

SO LATE AT NIGHT, RUNNING AROUND, CALLING IN FAVORS...

CRAP, MY CELL IS DEAD.

I CAN'T CONTACT SENSEI ...

HOW-EVER ...

IT ALSO SEEMS SHE'S BEEN TRYING TO DRAW YOU OUT OF YOUR SHELL

SHE CERTAINLY PUT A TON OF EFFORT INTO GETTING YOU TO SEE YOUR OWN NEIGHBOR-HOOD...

EX-CUSE ME.

SQUEEZE

SHE'S A GOOD GIRL, THAT HADA.

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO GO A LITTLE FASTER?

SCREECH

BAM

YES ...

SENSEI
...

Kawaii

Scans

Sachiko
Shizuku

Translator
Kuma_kun

Help Wanted!

Kawaii-Scans needs your help!

Looking at possible new series(if you have something you'd like to work on in mind already let's talk about it) or potentially help with some of our older ones.

Editors: We need people who have a solid background in image editing. We need both cleaners and typesetter. Or if you like to do both that's fine too!

We need people who have a good eye. You'll be asked to look for graphical mistakes as well as grammatical ones and list them for the editor to fix before release.

CHAPTER 6

I BROUGHT THE TONER.

SENSEI.

SORRY I'M LATE.

SENSEI...?

...

...

WHY ...

WHY WOULD YOU DO SOMETHING [illegible] FOR ME?

MY HEART WON'T STOP RACING.

WHEN HARUKA-SAN IS AROUND...

SENSEI SMILED FOR ME...

BUT...

HUH...

WHAT DOES SHE MEAN BY THAT...?

I WAS USEFUL TO HER

!

H-HUH...? I'M SORRY. PLEASE EXCUSE ME...

WHAT'S WITH THIS...

HUH..?

HA-HARUKA-SAN!

FLUSTERED

HUG

THE ANXIOUS FEELINGS OF BEING ABANDONED.

IT HURT LIKE IT DID BACKTHEN.

I... THOUGHT SENSEI HATED ME, SO...

HUH...

I...

I'M SORRY ...

I DIDN'T CONSIDER THAT I WAS MAKING HER UNEASY.

WHEN I CLOSED MYSELF OFF, I WAS ONLY THINKING OF PROTECTING MYSELF.

WITH THIS SLIM BODY,

SHE WAS RUNNING ERRANDS,

GETTING UPSET, CRYING

ALL FOR MY SAKE...

I DON'T WANT...

EVEN THOUGH I'M OLDER THAN HER,

SHE WORRIES ABOUT ME SO MUCH THAT IT'S EMBARRASSING...

TO MAKE HER CRY A SECOND TIME.

!

WHOOSH

HELLO?

RIIING

HE...

HAVE YOU GOTTEN THE TONER YET? THE TIME IS...!

SEN-SEEEI!

HIII

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT...!

KYAAAH!

CRYING IN FRONT OF A CO-WORKER!

...

IT'S FINALLY DONE AND OFF TO PRINT. I'VE CALMED DOWN, BUT...

SHAKE SHAKE

WHEN I SEE SENSEI NEXT, HOW SHOULD I ACT AROUND HER...?

!!

FLIP...

!!

HADA-CHAAAN,

YOU GOT A FAX FROM KUROI-SENSEI, IT'S ABOUT THE NEXT MANUSCRIPT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

THIS IS...

AHHH

FROM BACK THEN!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE UPSET WITH ME

WHEN I SAW YOU WAITING, MY HEART WOULDN'T STOP RACING.

I GET IT, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

IT'S BECAUSE KUROI IS THE TYPE OF AUTHOR WHOSE WORKS ARE BASED ON REAL LIFE.

SENSEI!

DOES SHE KNOW WHAT SHE'S DOING? OR IS SHE JUST AN AIRHEAD...!

IT LOOKS JUST LIKE US...!

SHE SUDDENLY FELT SOMETHING.

CRAP... I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT NOW.

WELL, I THINK IT'S ALRIGHT IF I CAN CONTRIBUTE TO HER WORK, RIGHT?

IT WAS MY DREAM JOB TO WORK TOGETHER WITH 'THE' KUROI-SENSEI...

WHAT ARE YOU GRINNING TO YOURSELF ABOUT?

HADAAA.

I WAS NOT GRINNING TO MYSELF!

I'M ON MY WAY TO MEET KUROI-SENSEI.

DRAMA PLANNED! "I WANT TO BE HONEST" IS A HUGE HIT

TO BE HONEST

NDAY, 9:00 PM ~ ON

NT TO BE H T

1 YEAR LATER...

IT'S ABOUT TIME TO GO.

SENSEI, ARE YOU READY YET?

SLAM

C'MON, PLEASE! GET OUT HERE, NOW!

IT'S FINE! I BET YOU'LL BE ABSOLUTELY STUNNING.

ARE YOU SAYING THE CLOTHES I CHOSE FOR YOU DON'T SUIT YOU?

THESE CLOTHES DON'T MATCH ME AT ALL...

IT IT'S NO USE AFTER ALL

ABOUT THE PARTY...

WHIMPER

KA-BAM

!!

GASP

...!

WRAP WRAP WRAP

HA HARUKA-SAN,

I CANT BREATHE

LET'S JUST COVER THAT UP WITH THIS SCARF!

SE-SENSEI...! SO CUTE...!

PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT!

TARO'S KOMATCH

CLATTER

AH.

I— UM...

WELL, LET'S HEAD OUT NOW!

THE TAXI DOWNSTAIRS HAS BEEN WAITING AFTER ALL.

HU-UUH?

IT HAS TO BE AROUND HERE...

RUSTLE

I'M WAY TOO TENSE ...

I WANT TO BRING MY CHARM!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WE'RE OUT OF TIME!

MY CHARM —

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

"I WANT TO BE HONES
DRAMA LAUNCH PAR

CHATTER

CHATTER

I KNOW, RIGHT?

IT'S AMAZING TO THINK THAT "I WANT TO BE HONEST" BECAME SO POPULAR!

BUT WASN'T IT YOU WHO ASSIGNED HADA AND KUROI-SENSEI TO WORK TOGETHER?

MUCH BETTER THAN EXPECTED?

MUCH BETTER THAN I EXPECTED.

KUROI AND HADA WORKING TOGETHER HAS BEEN...

I AM, AND YOU ARE?

EXCUSE ME...

I'M HADA FROM THE 4-KOMA DEPARTMENT.

YOU'RE THE SWEETS EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF RIGHT?

SHE WAS SO EXCITED ABOUT WORKING WITH KUROI, THAT I THOUGHT IT WAS WORTH A TRY.

WHEN I HEARD ABOUT HADA'S WISH TO CHANGE, I DECIDED TO GIVE A SHOT AND LET HER WORK WITH KUROI.

I CAME HERE BECAUSE I WANTED TO WORK WITH AND STUDY UNDER KUROI-SENSEI.

THE TRUTH IS, I CAME TO SWEETS BECAUSE I'M A HUGE FAN OF KUROI-SENSEI...

SOME PEOPLE PUT TOO MUCH THOUGHT INTO IT WHILE OTHERS HAVE A REALLY CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR AUTHOR. BUT IT'S ALRIGHT IF NEITHER OF THOSE ARE YOUR STYLE.

THE TRUTH IS,

WHEN IT COMES TO EDITING...

IT'S A JOB AND IT'S GOOD TO DISTANCE YOUR FEELINGS FROM IT.

SHE'S THE TYPE TO HIDE IN HER SHELL.

BUT KUROI IS DIFFERENT.

WHEN SHE'S LIKE THAT, HER WORK BEGINS TO SUFFER.

IRRITATED

THAT'S QUITE A WAY TO THINK, AS EXPECTED FROM EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S OLD-MAN WISDOM!

REALLY?

THEN WHEN IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'S RUSHING TOO QUICKLY INTO THINGS, SHE'S COMING TO TERMS WITH IT.

WHEN SHE'S OUT OF HER SHELL, STIRRING HER UP IS THE BEST THING O DO. THAT WAY, SHE CAN DO HER BEST.

NOW,

KUROI AND HADA ARE DOING WELL

CHANGE, GOALS, MARRIAGE... HOW LONG BEFORE THERE'S SOMETHING THAT SEPARATES THEM...

KUROI WILL PROBABLY FEEL ABANDONED AGAIN.

THE EDITOR AND AUTHOR ARE TWO ADULT GIRLS AND YET...

THE LINK BETWEEN THEM IS STRONG, AND THEY ARE INSEPARABLE, UNSURPRISINGLY.

BUT,

BUT,

HADA PROBABLY UNDERSTANDS THAT.

WAS I REALLY THAT CRUEL?

NEVERTHELESS, I STILL WANT TO PUBLISH GREAT WORKS.

BECAUSE KUROI'S TALENT IS THE REAL DEAL.

MAD MAD MAD

HERE IT IS!

I RECEIVED THIS A LONG TIME AGO. IT'S A FAN LETTER FROM MY BIGGEST FAN. HAVE THIS LETTER HERE, SO TODAY I AM...

TH... THIS

AH. YEAH, SURE.

GRAB

GRAB

WELL, LET'S HEAD OUT!

AH...

WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE!

COME ON!

CHATTER

CHATTER

SPARKLE

ACTOR -SAN

ACTRESS -SAN

FASHIONABLE PEOPLE

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!

SHUFFLE SHUFFLE

HERE IT IS!

DIGNIFIED IS...!

SHAKE SHAKE

IT... IT'S HOPELESS! I CAN'T DO IT AFTER ALL...! EVERYONE, EVERYONE'S LAUGHING AT ME.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THEY'VE BEEN WAITING!

DI DIGNIFIED?

TODAY, YOU'RE MEETING YOUR LEAD ACTOR! TRY TO BE A LITTLE MORE DIGNIFIED PLEASE.

HERE'S YOUR CHARM...

TOKYO CHIYOKA-KU
1-23-456-789
SWEETS MAGAZINE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
KUROI RITSU[illegible]

TOKYO CHIYODA-KU
1-23-456-789
SWEETS MAGAZINE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
KUROI RITSU-SE

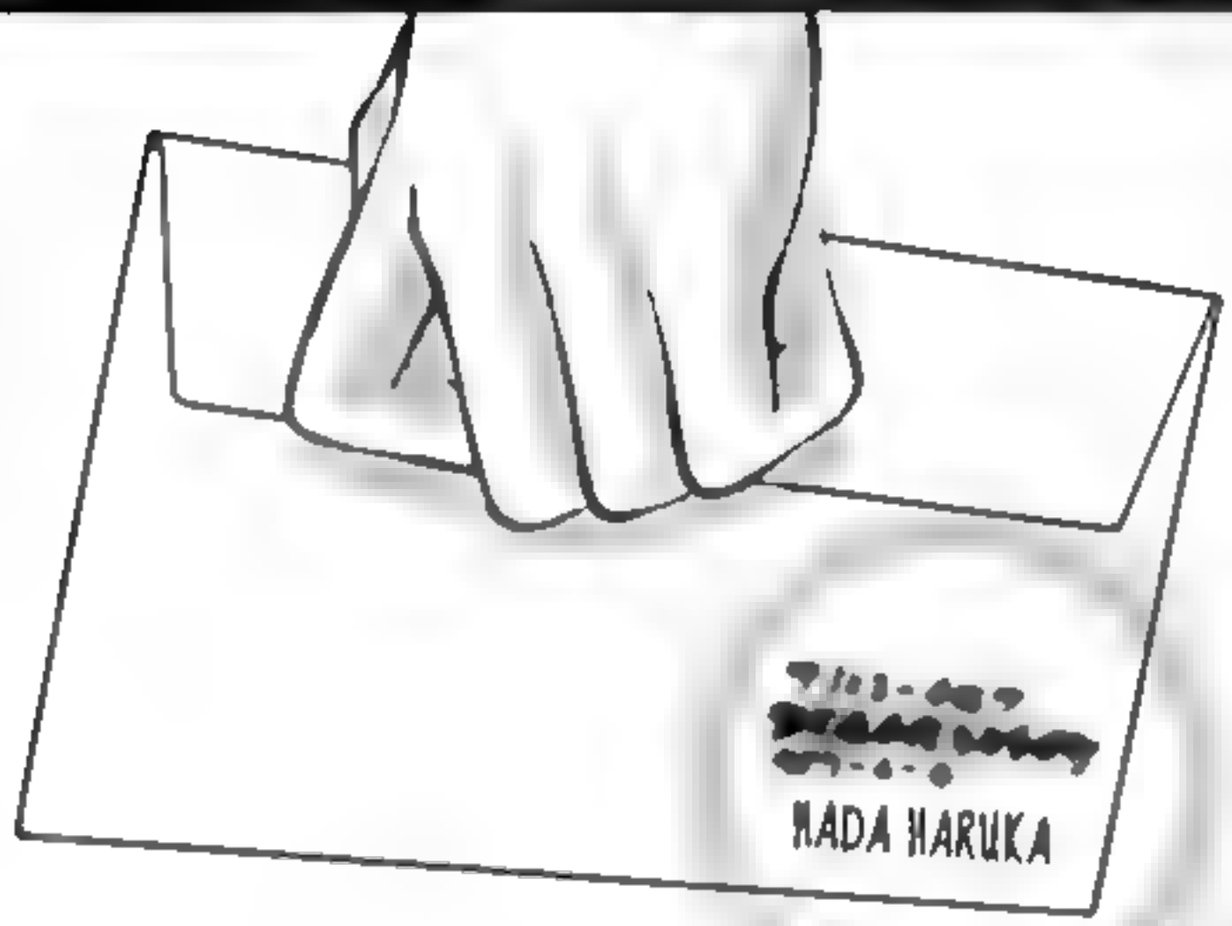
CHEER
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
SENSEI, PLEASE COME TO THE STAGE!
ARRIVING NOW IS THE AUTHOR OF "I WANT TO BE HONEST", KUROI RITSU-SENSEI.
!
GASP
SHIVER
SQUEEZE

I WON'T LET GO.

P-PL-PLEASE DON'T LET GO.

Y-YOU ABSOLUTELY WON'T?

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I WON'T EVER LET GO!



END

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.

My loved cartoonist
and clumsy me.

Raws by Kuro
Translator: Kuma-kun
Editor: Star Light

Proofreaders: QofLife & Yuukei
Quality Checkers:
TimeWaster, Ryuunosuke & ChefMon

Author image: Gyaza伽沙
image Pixiv ID: 38191081

glasses

BONUS CHAPTER

Giving her speech

SMACK

wahahaha!

Um I I m Kuro

THERE'S NO WAY I CAN CALM DOWN...

ER... YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY SO MUCH ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED BACK THERE!

ARE... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

Waaah?

No, they definitely aren't!

NOW EVERYONE'S THINKING I'M A COMPLETE PORK!

Cute?

EH?

WHAT ABOUT ME IS CUTE?

SENSEI, YOU WERE VERY CUTE TODAY.

THAT IS...

I ALWAYS THOUGHT SO, YOU KNOW. YOU'RE STYLISH, PRETTY, AND ALWAYS SO CUTE...

blush

EH...?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S ALWAYS ADORABLE, HARUKA!

...WELL, IF I'M

...

AND I'M NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL, SO... THOSE ARE THE SORTS OF THINGS I ALWAYS TRY TO PUT INTO MY WORK.

THAT'S ENTIRELY THANKS TO YOU, SENSEI.

EVEN A LITTLE STYLISH, OR EVEN A LITTLE PRETTY;

THANK YOU.

THIS LETTER TRULY KEPT ME GOING.

WAS FROM YOU, WASN'T IT, HARUKA?

FWISH

THIS...

...

BACK THEN,

I WANTED TO WRITE A LETTER THAT COULD CONVEY EVEN A FRACTION OF MY FEELINGS.

Huh?

blllllsh

...Oh my. I do believe this is the happiest I've ever been in my life.

Certainly, I never expected any sort of answer.

No, if anything, I wasn't even sure if my letter would be read.

It was something that meant this much to her...

But even so, sensei remembered it...

I think you may be exaggerating, Haruka-san...

I...

CHIEF!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE KUROI-SENSEI IS?

SOME PEOPLE FROM THE STUDIO WANT A SIGNATURE FROM HER...

tmp

tmp

GOT IT!

dash

I THINK SHE'S THAT WAY...

OH, DO THEY...?

IT ALMOST FEELS AS THOUGH I'M MEDDLING. LIKE I'M PLAYING THE KIND MATCHMAKER FOR THESE TWO.

Well search a little harder this time, idiot!

Konno-san, I can't find Kuroi-sensei

FROM HER START AS AN ARTIST, I NEVER COULD TAKE MY EYES OFF HER. IT'S AS THOUGH I THOUGHT OF HER AS MY OWN DARLING DAUGHTER, PERHAPS.

IT WAS FOR THE SAKE OF THE MANGA, SURE, BUT I ALSO JUST WANTED HER TO BE HAPPY.

ALONG WITH ANOTHER HUGE BUNCH OF FAN LETTERS!

I'VE BROUGHT SOME GOODIES!

SENSEI!

HOW'S THAT STORY-BOARD COMING ALONG?

ear Kuroi-sensei,
decided to write a
tter
am currently in middle
hool
nce I've read "I Want
o Be Honest,"
felt like I've found a bit
more courage
Just like Miboki, I thought
that I should work hard
and study for my future
If it comes true, I'll write
another letter!
Take care and please do your
best
I'm looking forward to it!

END

Congrats on the publication!

Without reading the story one might think they were a yuri couple...

Konno-san, you're so sexy, so cute, Konno-san!

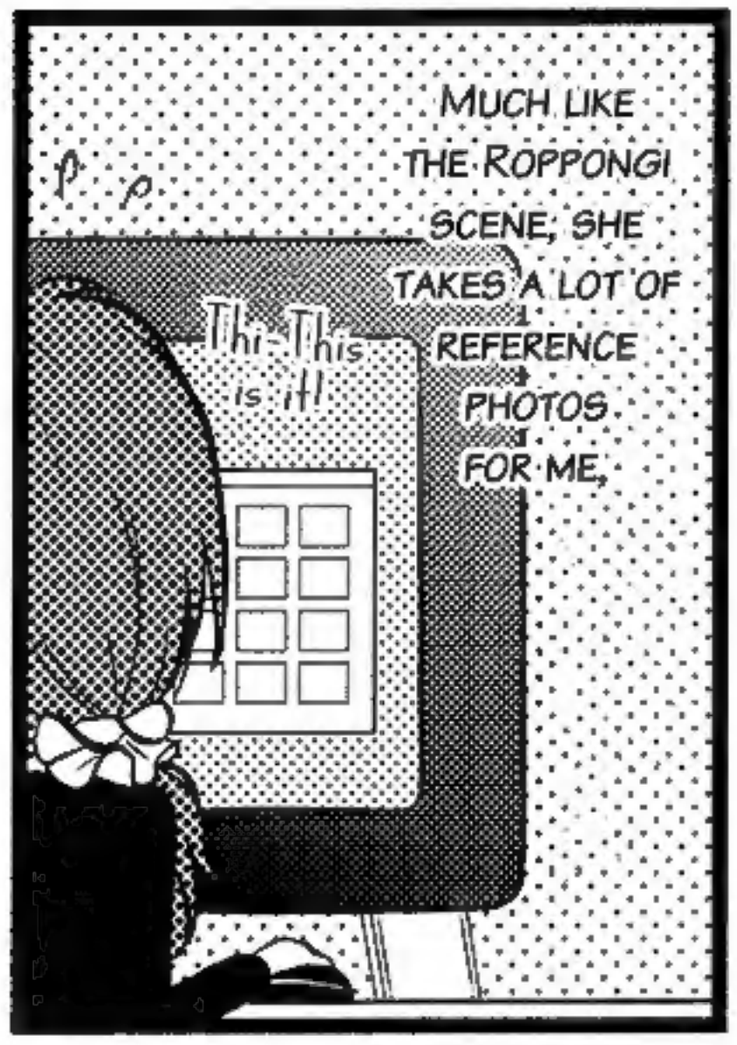
Shirogane Hina

Afterword

MY MANAGER AND ME

MY EDITOR IS AN EXTREMELY CAPABLE WOMAN!

SINCE RENAI MANGA IS ABOUT A MANGAKA AND HER EDITOR, HERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT MY OWN MANAGER AND MYSELF.



BUT MORE THAN ANY OF THAT, SHE'S SO VERY HUMBLE! (LOL)

During a storyboard meeting

THANKS TO THAT MANAGER'S STRENGTH AND SUPPORT I WAS ABLE TO FINISH RENAI MANGA ALL THE WAY TO THE END.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

SPECIAL THANKS

Art comes with thanks from Shirogane Hina-chan

♥ Thank you for the cute and sexy drawing of Konno-san! It's very rare for me to get others' drawings of my own characters, so I was thrilled!

♥ Ashi-san, hrkw-san, isi-san, ist-san, thank you, as always. You're all such a tremendous help! Sorry about how I get just before those deadlines! (lol)

♥ To all my readers, thank you so very much! Reading my work is what keeps me going! I hope you enjoyed this work even a bit!

Renai Manga Bonus

Translation:
Trolfamatore
Cleaning:
The Yuri Canon
Typesetting:
Sachiko
Proofreading:
Anonymous & QofLife
Quality Checking:
Shinju & Pai
Scans:
Kuro